

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ACCRA 00668 281607Z

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01
IOE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /115 W
-----281944Z 089458 /45

P R 281003Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6305

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 0668

DAKAR FOR HOROWITZ

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ILO, OAU, GH, XA

SUB: VISIT TO GHANA OF U.S. ILO REPRESENTATIVE

REF: A) ACCRA 0580, B) 76 STATE 294250,

1. SUMMARY: US ILO REP HOROWITZ VISITED ACCRA JANUARY
18-21. DURING STAY HE MET WITH COMMISSIONERS (MINISTERS)
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND LABOR, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF LABOR
MINISTRY AND EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION AND TRADES UNION
CONGRESS OFFICIALS. HOROWITZ ALSO DISCUSSED ILO WITH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ACCRA 00668 281607Z

OATUU SECRETARY GENERAL AKUMU (REFTEL A). GHANAIS
GENERALLY SYMPATHETIC TO US POSITION AND AGREED TO CONSULT
WITH US ILO REPRESENTATIVES.

2. HOROWITZ'S PRESENTATION OF US POSITION IN ILO
ADAPTED TO AUDIENCE, BUT GENERALLY REVIEWED FOUR AREAS
OF CONCERN: DOUBLE STANDARD, POLITICIZATION, CONDEMNATION

WITHOUT INVESTIGATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. HE NOTED ILO EXPERT COMMITTEE HAD FAILED TO REVIEW SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH CONVENTIONS WHILE CRITICIZING OTHER NATIONS. HE STRESSED THAT U.S. POSITION IN ILO NOT DUE TO MIDDLE EAST PER SE, AS ANY POLITICAL ISSUES ARE OUTSIDE OF ILO MANDATE OR TERMS OF REFERENCE AND INTERFERE WITH LEGITIMATE ILO BUSINESS.

3. CONCERNING ILO STRUCTURE, HOROWITZ OBSERVED THAT AUTONOMY OF EMPLOYER AND WORKER GROUPS HAD BEEN VIOLATED. GOVERNING BODY HAD BEEN EXPANDED TO REFLECT BROADER MEMBERSHIP. A FEW RADICALS IN COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURE PRESSING FOR CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE, WHILE U.S. FAVORS INFORMAL TALKS ON STRUCTURE BETWEEN ILO REPS.

4. HOROWITZ EXPLAINED US SPONSORED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17 OF STANDING ORDERS. AMENDMENT DEFINES TWO TYPES OF RESOLUTIONS AS NON-RECEIVABLE AND ESTABLISHES MECHANISM FOR SCREENING RESOLUTIONS. US REP OBSERVED THAT ASIANS WELCOMED PROPOSED AMENDMENT, AS IT WOULD EASE POLITICAL PRESSURES IN ILO. HOROWITZ URGED GHANAIAN SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENT AT MARCH MEETING OF GOVERNING BODY AND ANNUAL MEETING IN JUNE.

5. COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FELLI, IN LENGTHY DISCUSSION WITH ILO REP, WELCOMED HEARING U.S. POSITION. ACCORDING TO COMMISSIONER, GOG AGREED ILO SHOULD RETURN TO PRINCIPAL CONCERNS, BUT BELIEVES US ACTION TOO STRONG. FELLI OBSERVED THAT EMOTION OFTEN STRONGER THAN REASON IN LDCS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ACCRA 00668 281607Z

AND THAT GHANA WOULD PROBABLY SUPPORT CERTAIN POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS, EVEN IN INAPPROPRIATE FORA. HOROWITZ NOTED AMERICAN ACTION NOT A THREAT, BUT LONG IN COMING AND SUPPORTED BY EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS AS WELL AS USG. FELLI INDICATED GOG WOULD GIVE US PROPOSALS SERIOUS CONSIDERATION AND CONSULT WITH US REPRESENTATIVES AT ILO.

6. COMMISSIONER FOR LABOR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND COOPERATIVES, AMEDUME, FAMILIAR WITH AMERICAN VIEWS. AMEDUME WOULD VIEW US WITHDRAWAL AS ENDING EFFECTIVENESS OF ORGANIZATION AND EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS OF GOG TO COOPERATE WITH USG. HE NOTED GHANA INTENDS TO PLAY LARGER ROLE AND HAS NOMINATED DR. ALEX QUAISON-SACKEY, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNGA AND FOREIGN MINISTER UNDER NKRUMAH, TO BE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL. ACCORDING TO AMEDUME, NIGERIA AND LIBERIA AMONG SUPPORTERS OF GOG CANDIDATE. IN SEPARATE MEETING, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY LABOR MINISTRY OBSERVED STRUCTURAL CHANGES NECESSARY WITH WIDER ILO MEMBERSHIP.

7. EMPLOYER'S AND WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR US VIEWS IN ORGANIZATION. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATION NOTED THAT IOE HAD VOICED SAME CONCERNS AS US ABOUT TRENDS IN ILO. HE HAD OBSERVED CHANGE IN ORGANIZATION SINCE US LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW. IN MEETING AT GHANA TRADES UNION CONGRESS, ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL INTERESTED IN US POSITION AND OFFERED TO CONSULT WITH US ILO DELEGATION. HOROWITZ EMPHASIZED SUPPORT OF AMERICAN LABOR FOR OUR STAND IN ILO.

8. COMMENT: HOROWITZ ALSO HAD INFORMAL TALKS WITH GOG OFFICIALS AND UNION AND EMPLOYER LEADERS AT RECEPTION HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR. GHANAISANS GENERALLY AGREE WITH US AIMS IN ILO. HOWEVER, STRUCTURAL CHANGES GIVING MORE REPRESENTATION TO LDCS AND CERTAIN POLITICAL ISSUES, NOTABLY SOUTHERN AFRICA, HAVE STRONG EMOTIONAL APPEAL HERE. EMBASSY WILL RAISE ILO WITH APPROPRIATE GHANAIAN OFFICIALS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 ACCRA 00668 281607Z

AS OPPORTUNITIES ARISE.
SMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ACCRA00668
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770031-0945
Format: TEL
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770110/aaaaaild.tel
Line Count: 141
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 71a8b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ACCRA 580, 76 STATE 294250
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3478354
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT TO GHANA OF U.S. ILO REPRESENTATIVE
TAGS: ELAB, GH, XA, ILO, OAU, (HOROWITZ, DANIEL L)
To: STATE GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/71a8b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009